

Testimony for Bill 312
AA Requiring the DEEP to Study Bottle Bill Beverage Container
Refund Values and Redemption Fees
Submitted by George and Cynthia Willauer
To the General Law Committee
March 11, 2016

To Committee Chairs, Senator Leone and Representative Caram:

We are Cynthia and George Willauer a little new to the process of submitting testimony to the State Legislature. We hope we are allowed to submit together as together we urge opposition to this bill.

That the bottle bill regulation as now stands not only gets bottles out of the waste stream, it encourages entrepreneurship in ways we should all admire. In Lyme, at our recycling center, one can come upon a bottle collector from both our Town or from beyond, with competition stepping up the pace of the visits. Who cannot admire the enterprise that spurs individuals to fish bottles from the bin, --for pocket money, for the fun of the endeavor, or perhaps to survive!

And who cannot appreciate the relevance of the law as it now stands when one comes upon a collector with a shopping cart full of bottles in an urban center of our State?

Or all of us have passed the collecting center of our local supermarket and seen a mother with young children unloading a collection of bottles into the machine that redeems bottles for cash, it could be from the look on the faces of the kids to get money to shop for supper.

In addition to the above, who has not noticed the betterment of our roadsides that bottle bill has effected?

Given all the gains achieved by the enactment of the bottle bill as stands, we strenuously oppose Bill 312.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony and for your work on the General Law Committee of the General Assembly.

Sincerely,
George and Cynthia Willauer, 55-1 Beaver Brook Road, Lyme, CT 06371